Performance of power sector during the Ninth Plan

390. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the anticipated achievment of capacity addition in Ninth Plan is expected to be far below against the target of 40,245 MW;

(b) if so, what is expected capacity addition and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Planning Commission recommended to set up issues related to the performance of the power sector during Ninth Plan to suggest the advance action for the Tenth Plan; and

(d) if so, the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Against the original target of 40245 MW set for the 9th Plan period, the likely capacity addition would be around 19000 MW. The reasons for shortfall are:—

(i) Delayed financial closures of private sector projects due to non-availability of escrow.

(ii) Paucity of funds in State public sector projects.

(iii) Delay in land acquisition.

(iv) Delay in investment decision.

(v) R&R problems.

(vi) Law and Order problems.

(vii) Contractual problems.

(viii) Inter-state disputes in respesct of hydro projects.

(c) and (d) The Planning Commission, in the mid-term appraisal for the 9th Plan period for the power sector, had suggested the

setting up of a Task Force to analyse/examine issues related to the performance of power sector during the 9th Plan and advance action to be taken for 10th Plan. The Planning Commission had thereafter constituted a Working Group for the Power Sector for the 10th Plan which, *inter-alia*, has identified the projects to be pursued in the 10th Plan and also made an estimation of the resource requirement for generation, transmission and distribution, rural electrification, manpower development etc. Separately, the Ministry of Power has put in place a mechanism for regular monitoring of all projects which are to be commissioned during the Tenth Plan and beyond. This is over and above the Empowered Committee, chaired by Secretary, Power, which meets every quarter to monitor on-going projects.

Progress in construction of Loktak Downstream Project at Manipur

391. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present progress for construction of Loktak Downstream at Manipur;

(b) the total amount of funds so far released for this project; and

(c) the amount so far released for compensation of project site?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The Loktak Downstream Hydro-electric Project (90 MW), Manipur, was accorded Government approval on 30.12.1999 for its execution by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) at an estimated cost of Rs. 578.62 crores.

Work could not be taken up on the Project due to the non-availability of security coverage for the project and also due to problems in land acquisition. A stay order was granted by the Hon'ble High Court Guwahati, on the petition filed by affected villagers which has since been vacated. A fresh assessment and survey was directed by the Government of Manipur to assess the quantum of land and crop compensation payable on account of execution of the Project. The State Government has assessed the compensation payable to be approximately Rs. 18 crores, which is higher than the